

Rules and Regulations

Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors

Title 30: Professions and Occupations

Part 2201: Licensed Professional Counselors, Board of Examiners of

Part 2201. CHAPTER 1. General Provisions

Rule 1.4: Definitions.

Note: The terms counseling and psychotherapy are used interchangeably throughout this document.

- A. **Applicant:** An individual who has submitted an application packet for licensure as a Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor or a Licensed Professional Counselor.
- B. **Approved Educational Institution:** An institution offering a graduate degree which is accredited by a regional or national accrediting body approved by the Board.
- C. **Active Status:** An individual Licensee who is in good standing, including timely submission of all fees, changes of information, etc., and without sanctions.
- D. **Board:** The Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors.
- E. **Board Qualified Supervisor (LPC-S):** A Mississippi LPC who has completed the Board requirements and been approved to provide supervision as Clinical Supervisor to an Applicant. An LPC-S is one who monitors the performance of an applicant by providing documented one-to-one and/or group face-to-face consultation, supervision, guidance, and instruction with respect to the clinical skills and competencies of the supervised individual. A Board qualified supervisor is required to be trained in counseling supervision, have the required experience, and have been approved by the Board as a Board qualified supervisor and identified by the LPC-S designation. (as referenced in Rule 4.4(A))
- F. **Candidate:** A person who has satisfactorily completed all educational and experience requirements for independent practice as an LPC and has been deemed eligible by the Board to sit for the Board required examination.
- G. **Clock Hours:** Fifty-sixty minutes in a continuing education activity.
- H. **Clinical Setting:** A setting in which professional counseling/psychotherapy is offered.
- I. **Competency Area:** An area in which a person possesses training, experience, knowledge, skills, and the ability to apply them in the clinical setting.

- J. **Complainant:** A person who has filed an allegation with the Board against a Licensee.
- K. **Continuing Education Hours (CEH):** Term representing the clock hours of continuing education and how a Licensee may describe continuing education experience.
- L. **Counseling/Psychotherapy Procedures:** Counseling/Psychotherapy is the application of mental health, psychological, or human development principles, through cognitive, affective, behavioral, or systemic intervention strategies that address wellness, personal growth, or career development, as well as pathology. Counseling/Psychotherapy involves diagnosis, assessment, and treatment by the use of counseling/psychotherapy methods and techniques, both verbal and nonverbal, which require the application of principles, methods, or procedures of understanding, predicting and/or influencing behavior and motivation; the use of informational and community resources for personal or social development; the use of group and/or placement methods and techniques which serve to further the goals of counseling/psychotherapy; designing, conducting and interpreting research on human subjects and on any consultation on any item above; and appraisal techniques including, but not limited to, testing of achievement, abilities, interests, aptitudes and personality.
- M. **Declaration of Practice:** A statement presented to the Board by a P-LPC as an example of an informed consent which indicates the qualifications of the P-LPC, the counseling process, expectations, supervision, and notes the competence of the P-LPC in providing services. This statement is provided to the Board. A P-LPC must provide an updated Declaration of Practice statement each time site or supervisor changes and for each renewal of P-LPC.
- N. **Direct Service:** The term is used in these standards to refer to time spent in work directly related to clients. Direct Services are only face-to-face counseling including individual counseling, couples/family counseling, group counseling, and testing and assessment.
- O. **Distance Professional Services:** Counseling, consulting, and clinical supervision services provided by an LPC (as referenced in Rule 7.5) in one location to a recipient of services in another location by means of secure electronic communication ensuring HIPAA compliance in either asynchronous or face-to-face synchronous methods and, as appropriate, verbal telephone communications.
- P. **Fees for Licensed Counseling Services:** Any form of compensation received for the practice of counseling.
- Q. **Group Supervision:** The process of clinical supervision of more than one person but no more than six (6) persons in a group setting provided by an LPC-S.
- R. **Individual Supervision:** “Face-to-face” supervision of the individuals involved in the supervisory relationship during one-to-one supervision.

- S. **Lapsed Status:** A Licensee who fails to renew license in a timely manner. Lapsed individuals are not licensed to practice.
- T. **Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC):** An individual who has completed the Board requirements and been approved as an LPC. This designation shall mean and is restricted to any person who presents himself/herself to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words licensed professional counselor or psychotherapist and who offers to render professional counseling or psychotherapy services to individuals, groups, or organizations, corporations, institutions, government agencies or the general public for a fee, monetary or otherwise, implying that he/she is licensed in Mississippi.
- U. **Licensee:** A Counselor who holds a current license from the Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors.
- V. **Mandatory Audit:** Ten percent of Licensees will be randomly selected for an audit of their reported continuing education activities at the time of license renewal.
- W. **Non-Practicing Status:** Non-Practicing Status allows licensees to renew their license without completing continuing education. Non-practicing status does not allow for individuals to promote himself/herself as a Licensed Professional Counselor, Practice Counseling/Psychotherapy, provide Group or Individual Supervision, provide Distance Professional Services, or bill for Counseling/Psychotherapy.
- X. **Probation Status:** Probation Status, as a result of disciplinary action, may result in a stay of suspension during which conditions stipulated by the Board must be satisfied. Failure to meet any of these conditions may result in suspension, restriction, or revocation.
- Y. **Practice of Counseling/Psychotherapy:** Rendering, offering to render, or supervising those who render to individuals, groups, organizations, corporations, institutions, government agencies, or the general public any service involving the application of counseling procedures and other related areas of behavioral sciences to help in learning how to solve problems or make decisions related to personal growth, marriage, family, or other interpersonal or intrapersonal concerns.
- Z. **Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor (P-LPC):** An individual who has completed the Board requirements and been approved as a P-LPC. This designation shall mean and is restricted to any person who holds himself or herself out to the public by any title or description of services incorporating the words provisional licensed professional counselor or psychotherapist, and who offers to render professional counseling or psychotherapy services, under the supervision of a Board qualified supervisor (LPC-S), to individuals, groups, organizations, corporations, institutions, government agencies or the general public for a fee, monetary or otherwise, implying that he or she is licensed.
- AA. **Restriction Status:** Restriction Status, as a result of disciplinary action, is a limitation placed on the scope of a Licensee's practice.
- BB. **Revocation:** The withdrawal of the privilege to practice as a Licensee in the State of Mississippi.
- CC. **Retired Status:** An LPC, who, of his/her own volition, chooses to cease practice. This

category is not related to any disciplinary action, which would be the cause of ceasing to practice. An LPC's request for retired status is subject to Board approval (as referenced in Rule 5.4.D.). A Licensee in Retired Status cannot practice as an LPC in Mississippi.

DD. Revoked Status: Revoked Status is the result of disciplinary action by the Board, where the Licensee's privilege to practice in the state of Mississippi has been withdrawn.

EE. Supervision: The ongoing process performed by an LPC-S in assisting the counselor in developing expertise in methods of the professional mental health counseling practice, in developing self-appraisal, and professional development strategies.

FF. Surrendered Status (Disciplinary Action): A Licensee, as a result of disciplinary action, may request Surrendered Status by returning license to the Board and shall not be allowed to practice in the state of Mississippi. The Licensee's request for Surrendered Status is subject to the approval of the Board.

GG Surrendered Status (Voluntarily): A Licensee who wishes to voluntarily surrender his/her license for personal reasons by returning license to the Board and shall not be allowed to practice in the state of Mississippi.

HH. Suspension Status: Suspension Status, as a result of disciplinary action, is the withdrawal of the privilege to practice for a specified period of time.

II. Total Hours: Sum total of direct service hours, indirect service hours, and individual and group supervision hours.

Part 2201. CHAPTER 2. Fees

Rule 2.1: Fee Schedule

Rule 2.1.N - Non-practicing licensing fee \$50.

Part 2201. CHAPTER 5. Denial of Licensure, Administrative Appeal, Reapplication/Reinstatement, Licensure Categories

Rule 5.4: Licensure Categories

- A. Active Status: A Licensee who is in good standing.
- B. Non-Practicing Status: An LPC who is not currently practicing in the counseling field and/or does not plan to return to the counseling field in the foreseeable future.
 - 1. Non-practicing licensees can retain the wall certificate.
 - 2. Licensees must apply for non-practicing status at the time of renewal. Non-practicing licensees must renew yearly.
 - 3. Non-practicing licensees are not required to complete CEH to renew.
 - 4. In order to return to Active Status, the licensee must pay the full licensing fee, complete the Jurisprudence Exam within the past 365 days, show evidence of 12 Continuing Education Hours within the prior 365 days, and background check (if requested by the Board).
- C. Lapsed Status: An LPC who fails to renew license in a timely manner. Individuals in Lapsed Status are not licensed to practice.
- D. Restricted Status: The Board, as a result of disciplinary action, may choose to limit or restrict the scope of a Licensee's practice.
- E. Retired Status: An LPC, who, of his/her own volition, chooses to cease practice. This category is not related to any disciplinary action, which would be the cause of ceasing to practice. An LPC's request for Retired Status is subject to Board approval. An LPC in Retired Status cannot practice as an LPC in Mississippi yet is allowed to retain original wall certificate. LPCs in Retired Status do not pay the biennial license renewal fee. Board approval is required to return from Retired Status to Active. Upon returning to Active Status (from Retired Status), the LPC is required to pay the license renewal fees. The Licensee who desires to return to practice must present to the Board appropriate documentation of continuing education demonstrating that he/she has remained abreast of current professional standards of practice.
- F. Revoked Status: The Board may revoke an individual's license as a result of disciplinary action, as defined in the law (Section 73-30-21).
- G. Suspended Status: The Board, as a result of disciplinary action, may choose to invalidate a license for any period of time.

- H. Surrendered Status: A Licensee, as a result of disciplinary action, may request Surrendered Status. The Licensee's request for Surrendered Status is subject to the approval of the Board.
- I. Voluntarily Surrendered Status: A Licensee who wishes to voluntarily surrender license for personal reasons.
- J. Memorial Status: Upon receipt by the Board office of notification of death of a Licensee, the license status will change to Memorial Status.

Source: Miss Code Ann. § 73-30-7 (6) & 73-30-9 (Rev. 2018)

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